

For such a time as this

Good Morning Newsong Church!!!! Im so excited to be here with you today!!

Its always so amazing to worship with you and its such an honor to get the opportunity to bring the word this morning. My Name is Jacob, Im the youth director here at Newsong church. I just want to take a second to welcome all of our First time guests and everyone who is watching online!! Let us know where you're watching from if you're online! I believe that God has a word for each of us today

Today we are kicking off our brand new series!! For such a Time as this , for the entire month of August we will be hearing from the young communicators, the young leader and its going to be amazing!

I want to start today with a little bit of an audience interaction...

1. Silent Generation (1928–1945)

Grew up during the Great Depression and WWII. Valued discipline, conformity, and hard work. Loyal, traditional, civic-minded, and the first to embrace TV.

2. Baby Boomers (1946–1964)

Born post-WWII in an era of prosperity. Shaped by civil rights, Vietnam, and cultural revolutions. Known for being ambitious, competitive, and work-focused.

3. Generation X (1965–1980)

Grew up amid rising divorce rates and economic uncertainty. Independent, skeptical, pragmatic, and often considered the “middle child” generation.

4. Millennials / Gen Y (1981–1996)

Came of age during 9/11, the internet boom, and the Great Recession.

Digital natives known for collaboration, purpose-driven work, and challenging norms. Faced student debt and housing issues.

5. Generation Z (1997–2012)

Raised in a hyper-connected, smartphone era. Diverse, socially aware, mental health-conscious, and entrepreneurial. Lived through COVID-19 and prefer digital-first communication.

Every generation is known for something. Some are known for their work ethic or being born into a digital age. Every generation is shaped based on something that happened to them or something that was going on around that time of their upbringing.

In reflecting on what defines our own generation, it's worth asking a deeper question:

If you could say one thing to your generation.... What would it be?

If you could share a thought or an encouragement what would you say?

These were the questions we began to think about as started talking about this series, “For such a time as this”

A few different things come to mind but something that kept coming back to me was this... Put your full trust in God everyday! In every situation. Trust God in everything you do!

No matter what generation you were born into, God has placed you there for such a time as this!!! Whatever age you are or generation you're from, you were created with a purpose.

Our series Verse is found in

Esther 4:14

And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Esther was put into a royal position at the perfect time, to save her people from being wiped out. God Put her there for a purpose and plan! In the same way God has a plan and a purpose for you and me today! For such a time as this

PRAY

We live in a world where people are constantly looking to find happiness, they are looking for that one thing

People strive for success, hoping that if they become successful enough they will make money and then maybe they will be happy

Or maybe you are just someone who is looking for a good time, good music, good drinks, whatever it is that can make you feel Good!

And to go a little deeper

If you Realize it or not , humans look for something to put their hope into, something or someone to put their faith into. What do people put their faith in? Themselves, religion, Politics, Jobs, Money, Relationships.

Once I meet Mr. or Mrs. Right then it'll be good, then my life will start and things will make sense

Once we have the right president, there will be peace and hope in the country.

Once I stack this money high enough I'll be set.

We often look to the horizon but ignore what's right in front of us.

What would it look like if we became a church — a generation — that refused to settle for what the world offers, and instead chose to fully trust God in every area of our lives?

God wants to be God in every moment of your life, not just when it's good and easy, not just on Sunday! But everyday God wants to commune with you!

This is what I want my generation to know and every generation! Whatever the world is offering you, it will not fulfill like God will. Only God can be your firm foundation! Trust God, even if it doesn't make sense!

Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT

Trust in the LORD with all your heart;

do not depend on your own understanding.

Seek his will in all you do,

and he will show you which path to take.

So how do we put our trust in God?

Well Faith comes from hearing the word of God

I believe the bible is completely true, God breathed, without fault, God Inspired Book. Is an essential of the believer. We can find so much wisdom just from the different chapters and people's lives we learn about.

So I want to take the next few minutes , looking an some incredible moments of Faith

Who remembers when we went through the book of Daniel? It was an awesome series, I highly recommend you go back watch those sermons, have a bible study in Daniel. Its an amazing book in the bible, I want to focus in on Daniel chapter 3 for today.

The people of Judah (Gods People) were taken under captivity, by an Evil king, King Nebuchadnezzar, His friends call him king nebbby ,

He was evil, he destroyed the temple, mocked their Jewish faith, then he took the best and brightest young Men. He took them from their home and their people , brought them back to his home in Babylon and to ***indoctrinate*** them with the babylonian ways.

Daniel and his three friends , Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego were the brightest and best of Judah and they were not Giving in the babylonian way.

See king Nebuchadnezzar, King Nebby, he was kinda a humble guy, so humble that he decided to build a 90 Foot gold statue of himself. Just kidding, he was not humble at all. He thought that he was so great and amazing, I'll build this statue for my honor.

So he gets everyone together and this what happens

Daniel 3:4-7

4 Then a herald shouted out, “People of all races and nations and languages, listen to the king’s command!

5 When you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments,[c] bow to the ground to worship King Nebuchadnezzar's gold statue.

6 Anyone who refuses to obey will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."

7 So at the sound of the musical instruments,[d] all the people, whatever their race or nation or language, bowed to the ground and worshiped the gold statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

What do we see? The king has created a culture of idol worship, People are following the culture, they put their faith in an evil king, in their rulers , now being forced to worship a false Idol, a false God. I just imagine this gigantic statue and just a mass of people, bowing down , worshipping an Idol, something that will never fulfill them. Sounds a little familiar right?

You're thinking Jacob, we are living in 2025, we don't have giant gold 90 foot tall statues any more. We don't have Idols. Wake up scroll scroll scroll on your phone for like 20 minutes past your alarm. We don't have any idols, Baseball, football, Basketball, Golf. We don't have any Idols

We don't have a culture of bowing to 90 foot statues anymore, but our culture still glorifies other idols. Money, fame, Sex just to name a few (Sex, wealth, perversion, etc)

See Culture will always try to get you to compromise on God's word.

Exodus 20:3 says "You must not have any other god but me."

Why because No other "god" can compare. When you believe in the one who spoke the universe into existence, the one who is the beginning and the end, the one true God who embodies what Perfect love is. Anything else but him will never be enough

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego See everyone around the bowing down, Out of fear or out of faith in this false Idol. Like I can just imagine it, they hear the music begin to play and everyone around them just falls to their knees and you see three boys standing alone. Refusing to compromise their faith.

When you have faith In Jesus the, devil will try to get you to compromise your faith.

1. When Pressure rises, We Can trust God!

Every generation is known for something. Amongst everyone else bowing down, they alone stood up. They stood up to be known for putting their faith in God . They were a voice for a generation of faith. ***You will be remembered for what you stand for.***

When things start to rise, when the pressure begins to build, you can fully put your trust in God. When the pressure starts to rise, you need to hold onto what God has done in your life in the past. You need to remind yourself that no matter what has happened , he has never dropped you. That you serve the God of the impossible.

You Serve the God who makes a way when there is no way

You serve the God that when he speaks dead things come back to life

God has the ultimate winning streak.

Joshua 1:9 NLT

9 This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

Psalm 9:10 NLT

10 Those who know your name trust in you, for you, O LORD, do not abandon those who search for you.

Hebrews 13:8 NLT

8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

All through out scripture we see God proving time and time again that he is trust worthy, so when pressure rises, you can put your faith in him

Instead of bowing down to compromise we can stand up for christ

Then King Nebuchadnezzar finds out, One of his servants tells him, Remember those Jewish boys you brought here? They are paying your statue no mind and they aren't worshipping your god or you.

Nebby is outraged and is going to ask Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego himself what really happened,

14 Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up? 15 I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments.[f] But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?”

The king is saying you can bow or burn, but this is your last chance. I know king Nebuchadnezzar is for real because he's crazy he's got that crazy look in his eyes.

Look how the three boys respond

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. 17 If we are thrown into the blazing

***furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us.
He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty.***

They said respectfully, We don't have to explain ourselves, we are not worshipping your golden statue. The God we serve, the one true God is able to save us!!!!

This is such amazing faith in the middle of adversity, facing death. What they say next is even more amazing to me.

18 But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."

Even if he doesn't! They are literally facing death and they have the boldness and faith to say even if he doesn't save us and we die in the fire, we will never worship you or your false Gods!

2. We can trust God in the UNKNOWN

But even if he doesnt, A short a few words but it was the start of a faith-filled statement not fear filled. They know that even the unknown of what's going to happen God is

still Good, God Is still holy, God is still worthy of all their praise!

This is the faith we should strive to have! God, I dont know how this is going to work out but im putting my faith in you! Im taking my thoughts captive, im taking my fears and giving them to you lord. ONLY YOU know my future and you are good Father.

Church let me remind you of this!

Faith is not trusting God for a specific outcome, but Trusting him through every outcome!!!!

When Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego were told you can either bow or burn they decided to put their faith in God. and if God saved them or not they decided they were still not bowing

They decided that they are standing on the foundation of Christ, that God is still God and he is king, even if he saves or he doesn't. What an amazing faith to have! The bible is clear, we will face trails and we will face hardship.

The bible never says your life will be full of sunshine and rainbows and chick fil a sandwiches everyday.

But you will face trials church! When you are facing the unknown , When you are in the fire, when you feel the heat, when you are in a storm and you feel like the waves and wind are beating down against you. He is with you!!!

John 16:33 NLT

33 I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

I love this verse because Jesus is reminding his disciples and us, that we can have peace in him. He says you will face trials and sorrows. Not maybe, not just perhaps possibly. "You WILL face trials" but we can take heart Jesus has already overcome the world!!!!

He is a faithful father! He will never forsake you

I love what it says In

Isaiah 43:2

When you go through deep waters,

I will be with you.

When you go through rivers of difficulty,

you will not drown.

When you walk through the fire of oppression,

you will not be burned up;

the flames will not consume you.

God is not a far away God, that you have to perfect yourself and then you will find him. Once you accept him into your life, and you seek him. You will find him!

Putting your faith in God, doesn't mean you will get all the answers to the problems in your life, but it means you believe that He loves you, that he has a plan for your life, that he has the best for you in mind and that he is in control!!

Story of being called Into ministry, in the unknown

I grew up in church, basically was born and then I became a member of the church. Any other Pastor kids know what I'm talking about? I remember going to church from when I was super young and I loved it. I had a good time going to royal rangers on Friday nights , going to kids ministry on Sunday.

Going to church from when I was young was a huge blessing, I learned about God and loved him and I even began to love to serve him from a young age. One year when I was probably around 10 or so , our church joined a bunch of churches in a inner city outreach called break out. We were dressing up like clowns, getting kids and families to come see the clown show that had a gospel message. Other teens did skits and human videos. I wasn't even a teenager yet but I got to because my dad was one of the Pastors helping I got to help out. And this was just the coolest thing to me as a kid. The event would be a big missions, outreach during the day and then each night would end with a time of worship and a sermon back at the church building for the teens.

I remember one of the pastors prayed for me and God placing his calling on me in that moment! A calling into ministry and I'll never forget the words he spoke to me. I was so happy and ready to serve!

Fast forward a few more years and I'm a teenager , like 13. I still felt called but the happy feeling turned to fear.

I was worried about the future. What was an exciting thing became a weight that I couldn't bear myself. My future was in God's hands but I was afraid of the unknown. I struggled with this for years and questioned if I really heard from God or if I would be able to succeed. If I was qualified.

As I began to grow in my relationship with God, I started to know God's character more and more. I gave him my yes, little by little. God if you are calling me to it , then lord i need you to carry me through.

Whats even more amazing, despite all time I spent being afraid of God's will and the unknown in my life. God time and time again reaffirmed his call on my life.

He didnt decide to cut me out once I doubted the third or 30th time.

Church, I am standing up here today preaching , not because I never doubted or got it all right but because God called me for such a time as this. He is faithful

Church he is a Good father!

We can trust him in the unknown

Lets continue In daniel 3 Verse 21

21 So they tied them up and threw them into the furnace, fully dressed in their pants, turbans, robes, and other garments. 22 And because the king, in his anger, had demanded such a hot fire in the furnace, the flames killed the soldiers as they threw the three men in. 23 So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, securely tied, fell into the roaring flames.

King Nebuchadnezzar , Had the furnace turned up even hotter than before. As his soldiers were throwing the boys in, his soldiers died. Imagine how hot the fire was

They were thrown into the flames but how many know their story doesn't end there! Some of you here and you trusted God in the unknown and you now you landed in the fire in a fire, in a storm, you've been praying for the miracle and still are waiting! Your story is not over!!

Daniel 3:24

24 But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, "Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?"

"Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did," they replied.

25 "Look!" Nebuchadnezzar shouted. "I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god[g]!"

Jesus is with them in the fire!!! Jesus stepped into their situation and it changed! Thats the God we serve today!

Hold the phone, they are in the fire and they are just walking around, wait and now theres a fourth person in there with them and he looks like a God.

Bible scholars believe this a moment of Jesus appearing in the old testament , its called a (Christophany) , Its a pre incarnate appearance of Jesus,

Three people go in the fire and now we see four!

I wonder what happened while Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were in the fire. Like of course they were afraid. But I wonder what Jesus said to them. I dont think Jesus just showed up and was like “hey”

I wonder what he said, maybe he said something like “ I am with you through it all” or maybe he said “Your heavenly father is so proud of you” You stood strong in your faith, regardless of what everyone around you was doing.

“ Because of your act of Faith king Nebuchadnezzar is about to start following the one true God”

“you may not realize it now but because of your act of Faith people all over the world will know your story . People who are hurting, going through their own trial , will know the goodness and character of God and this moment will give them hope”

I'm not exactly sure what he said but Jesus the living God, met them in the fire!

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!”

Daniel 3:27-28

So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. 27 Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads

was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke!

28 Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him. They defied the king's command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.

I want you to notice two things here

Look where God met them, He didnt show up before the fire , He met them in the fire

God did not remove the trial for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, He did not remove the fire, BUT he met them in the fire!

God may not remove a trial in your life but he will reveal himself through it. Most importantly he WILL be with you!!!!!!!!!!

And i want to speak to the ones who are here and they are doubting or afraid of the future or maybe you are feeling the pressure and you find yourself in a Fire today.

By the grace of God, you will be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. You will go through the fire and will come out on the other side not smelling like smoke. You will come out of the fire with your clothes not singed or burnt.

You can put your faith in Jesus today and everyday!

Church, God is your firm Foundation, Let him be your foundation everyday.

Listen to what Jesus says in Matthew

Matthew 7:24-27

NLT 24 "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 25 Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock"

Lastly for your notes

3. Trusting in God Brings Glory to Him

When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego publicly stood up for God, going against the flow, People noticed. Their faith led to an amazing testimony and they moved a Pagan King.

King Nebuchadnezzar made the true God, the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego the God over Babylon!

When we trust God fully, our lives become a witness of HIS POWER and HIS FAITHFULNESS!

Trusting God isn't about having all the answers — it's about resting in the One who does.

As the worship team comes up as we begin to close

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't know what would happen, but they knew who they trusted. So can we — in the fire, in the unknown, in every situation.

God wants to commune with you everyday. He wants to be the God of your life everyday not just Sunday or At bible study or just on Friday for youth.

Something we can all do starting today, is put our trust in Him. we can start to create Good habits that will grow us closer to God

We have to habitually study the Word to really have confidence in God and know we can hear Him. As we spend time reading and meditating on Scripture, we develop a strong spirit.

Then we can hear God speaking to our heart and make decisions based upon what He's leading us to do, not just what we think, feel or want.

Church can we all stand together for a moment

We always end our services with this Question

What's the Holy Spirit saying to you?

You might be here and you've been realizing that you are far away from God.

Friend let me remind you today that you dont have to face the unknown alone, you dont have to face the fire alone!

When you call on Jesus, he will be right there! Right alongside you, walking with you through the fire.

You might be feeling like you are so far away from God, that he cant save you.

You are not too far gone

He wants to be lord in your life today and forever

With every head bowed for a moment,
If you are here today or your watching online and you
want to accept Jesus as your personal savior

I want to pray for you, if you're here today and you're
saying yes that me. I want to accept Jesus as my
personal savior. Would you just raise your hand so I can
see who I'm praying for?

Pray

Amen

With every head still bowed
If youre here and you do call yourself a christian but
maybe you are in a season of feeling the pressure.

Maybe youre here and you have been asking God where
are you and you are feeling the flames of the fire.

Maybe you are starting to wonder if God will fulfil his
promise, maybe you've been putting your trust in other
things that are not God.

Pray

Child of God, Your heavenly father sees you. He is with you right now in the middle of the fire.